

Minutes
Public Hearing
November 2 2010

Purpose: To solicit input on a proposed Ordinance of the Town of Haysi establishing an animal control ordinance.

Mayor Yates announced the public hearing officially open at 6:45 p.m. He stated the purpose of the public hearing was to receive public comment on the above said ordinance.

Mayor Yates opened the floor for public comment.

Merle Fuller, stated, "Pet owners need to be more responsible. Citizens walking their dog do not clean up after their animal and something needs to be done."

Mayor Yates, responded, "he hopes this ordinance the council has put together will give the council and Chief Wallace some control over any animal that is causing a problem, so if your neighbor dog is causing a problem, and there is evidence of this, then the owner of the pet can be fined \$50.00."

Merl Fuller stated "The dogs that is bothering me, I do not know who they belong to."

Gaynell Sutherland, suggested, "When Mrs. Fuller is bothered with an animal to contact the town for assistance.

Merl Fuller stated, "She does not always see the dogs."

Mayor Yates, asked, "Mrs. Fuller if the Animal Control Officer, had been over to visit with her?"

Merle Fuller, stated, Years ago, because there were so many cats and dogs, they came and picked them up, but have not been back in a long time. Again, I do not know who the dogs belong to, they could be strays. Ms. Fuller also, stated I think the town should inform the animal owner he/she should either keep their dogs on a lease or the owner is responsible for cleaning up after their pet, and I think this is up to the town; it is not up to me to make the neighbors mad."

Mayor Yates, asked, "Chief Wallace if he had the opportunity to review the ordinance?"

Chief Wallace responded, "Yeah, he had.

Mayor Yates, asked, "Do you think it can be enforced?"

Chief Wallace, replied, "I do not see why the ordinance could not be enforced."

Mayor Yates, asked, "Is it better than the ordinance the town has now"

Chief Wallace, replied, "I think so, I think it much better."

Mayor Yates, asked, "Chief Wallace is there anything you would change about the ordinance?"

Chief Wallace, replied, "No."

Mayor Yates, asked, "Has the Dickenson County Animal Control Office been doing his job, to the best of Chief Wallace's knowledge?"

Chief Wallace, responded, "Over here."

Mayor Yates, replied, "Yes."

Chief Wallace, explained the Animal Control Officer would not go alone, because if he gets a call, he notifies the town, due to being in the town's jurisdiction. The Animal Control Office accompanied by the town officer would then perform his job.

Merl Fuller, commented, "She has a neighbor and she is a good house keeper, she was unable to attend tonight's meeting, but she has porch furniture, cats have ruined. I do not think she should have to put up with cats destroying her furniture."

Mayor Yates, asked, "Ms. Fuller, does your neighbor know who the cats belong to?"

Merl Fuller, replied, "I do not think so, there is a whole neighborhood full of cats."

Gaynell Sutherland, stated, "this has come up before and the cats were cleaned up, it is not like it use to be, where you could not get out of the house without stepping on one."

Chief Wallace, commented, "Mayor, basically, we have had cat problems in the bottom before, and as far as what we do is set a trap or loan a trap to the folks with the problems, and when the cat is caught the person contacts the Animal Control Officer for him to pick the animal up.

Mayor Yates, commented, "The town has a trap which can be borrowed to help catch the cats."

Chief Wallace, stated, "The trap is currently being used by citizen in the bottom."

With no further comments, at 7:10 p.m. Mayor Yates announced the Public Hearing closed.

Mayor

Attest:
